

## **AGENDA**

### **CONNECTICUT BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR OPTOMETRISTS**

Wednesday, February 28, 2007, at 9:15 AM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut  
Conference Room "E", Second Floor

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

#### **I     MINUTES**

Review and approval of the minutes of the November 8, 2006 meeting.

#### **II    NEW BUSINESS**

A.     Investigations Update

*Gary Griffin, Investigations Supervisor*

B.     ARBO Program

*Dr. Pinn*

C.     Proposed Legislation

Bill No. 7159 – An Act Updating the Scope of Practice of Optometry

Bill No. 7163 – An Act Concerning Revisions to Department of Public Health Statutes

Bill No. 7155 – An Act Concerning A Professional Assistance Program For Health Care Professionals

#### **III   ADDITIONAL ITEMS**

#### **IV    ADJOURN**

A Meeting of the **Connecticut Board of Examiners for Optometrists** was held on November 8, 2006 at the Department of Public Health, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut, in Conference Room F on the second floor.

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BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Edward F. Pinn, O.D., Chairman  
Leora Berns, O.D.  
Henry W. Siegrist  
John Sienko, O.D.  
Eugene Winakor, O.D.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Patricia Henrietta Simmons

ALSO PRESENT: Jeffrey Kardys, Board Liaison  
Kathleen Boulware, Public Health Services Manager DPH  
Gary Griffin, Investigations Supervisor, DPH

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Dr. Pinn called the meeting to order at 9:15.

***I. MINUTES – September 13, 2006***

The minutes of September 13, 2006 were reviewed. The minutes were corrected by changing “Mr. Berns” to “Dr. Berns”. They were approved as corrected.

***II. NEW BUSINESS***

***A. Investigations Update***

Gary Griffin that there are three optometrist complaints under investigation by the Department of Public Health. In addition, one case has been referred to the Department’s legal office for review. (An optometrist had refused to supply records as requested.)

Kathleen Boulware, Public Health Services Manager, Department of Public Health Practitioner Investigations Unit addressed the Board regarding the issues raised by Dr. Sienko concerning how the DPH classifies complaint investigations. There was also discussion with Ms. Boulware regarding the issue of confidentiality. According to Statue 19A14, names are protected during an investigation and up to a year afterwards. After 1 year or after a case is closed, the information can be released under the FOI (Freedom of Information Act). Unlike medical doctors and veterinarians, all other regulated professions are unprotected from the public’s knowing about complaints.

***B. Meeting Dates for 2007***

Following are the meeting dates scheduled for 2007.

February 28, 2007

May 2, 2007

September 12, 2007

November 7, 2007

All meetings will be scheduled for 9:15 a.m., at the Department of Public Health, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

***III. OTHER BUSINESS***

There was extensive discussion among the Board members and Ms. Boulware about the issue of “reciprocity” versus “endorsement” of licensure and the proposed changes in wording of our statutes. We finally concluded that the proposed changes do not change the intent of the law.

Dr. Pinn made the point that the language of this section of the Statute should include the mention of Treatment and Management of Disease.

It is requested that Jennifer Filippone, Section Chief, Department of Public Health Office of Practitioner Licensure and Investigations, be present at the next meeting to discuss proposed changes to the Optometry statutes.

***IV.     ADJOURN***

Dr. Winakor made a motion, seconded by Dr. Sienko, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Leora Berns, O.D.  
Connecticut Board of Examiners for Optometrists